



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/670,727	09/26/2003	Kazuya Tsukada	Q77651	6622
23373 7590 10/29/2007 SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20037			EXAMINER NGUYEN, KIMNHUNG T	
			ART UNIT 2629	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 10/29/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/670,727	Applicant(s) TSUKADA, KAZUYA	
	Examiner Kimnhung Nguyen	Art Unit 2629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 August 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 7-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 7-13 and 15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 14, 16 and 17 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Application has been examined. The claims 1 and 7-17 are pending. The examination results are as following.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1 and 7-13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kano et al. (US 2002/0149704).

As to claims 1, Kano et al. discloses in fig. 1, a remote control system comprising: a remote control operating unit (332) having an input device (input terminals 311-315) for inputting connection information between information processing equipment (AV amplifier unit 310) and information reproduction equipment (CD, GAME, TV, VCR, AUX) connected to the information processing equipment (AV amplifier 310) via a connector (corresponds to AV amplifier unit 310 includes a plurality of audio signal terminals 311-315 for connection with sound/picture source..., see 0064), a storage device (340) for storing the connection information and an output device for outputting the connection information (see 0065); and a control unit (micro computer 318) having a recognition device for recognizing the connection between the

Art Unit: 2629

information processing equipment and the information reproduction equipment connected to the information processing equipment, based on the connection information output from the remote control operating unit (see 0064 and 0067), wherein the control unit (318) controls the information processing equipment and the information reproduction equipment, based on a control signal output from the remote control operating unit, corresponding to the connection between the information processing equipment and the information reproduction equipment connected to the information processing equipment recognized by the recognition device (see 0071).

As to claims 7-8, 12-13 and 15, Nashida et al. discloses further, wherein the information processing equipment has a detection device (power supply circuit 342) for detecting the presence of the information reproduction equipment connected to the information processing equipment, and the detection results is power information of the information reproduction equipment (see 0066).

As to claim 9, Nashida et al. discloses a remote control operating unit (318), which controls the operation of information processing equipment and information reproduction equipment connected to the information processing equipment (AV amplifier 310) as discussed above, comprising: an input device (input terminals 311-315) used for inputting connection information which indicates that the information reproduction equipment is connected to the information processing equipment via a connector that is included in the information processing equipment (310); a storage device (RAM 340) for storing the connection information; and a display device for displaying designation information (figs. 1) indicating the information reproduction equipment, based on the connection information stored in the storage device

Art Unit: 2629

(corresponds to AV amplifier unit 310 includes a plurality of audio signal terminals 311-315 for connection with sound/picture source..., see 0064); a selection device (corresponds to keys 346, 348, 350, 352, fig. 2, see 0068) for selecting designation information; a searching device for searching the connection information corresponding to the selected designation information from the storage device; and an output device for outputting the connection information specified by the searching device (see 0064, 0067 and 0071).

As to claims 10-11, are rejected as the same as claim 9 and discussed.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 14, 16 and 17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

None of the cited art teaches or suggests that the control device controls the information processing equipment and the information reproduction equipment, and judges whether to output a signal of the information reproduction equipment to the other information reproduction equipment, or to output a signal transmitted from the information processing equipment to the other information reproduction equipment, based on a control signal output from the remote control operating unit, corresponding to the connection between the information processing equipment and the information reproduction equipment connected to the information processing equipment recognized by the recognition device.


Correspondence

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kimnhung Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-7698. The examiner can normally be reached on MON-FRI, FROM 8:30 AM-5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Hjerpe can be reached on (571) 272-7691. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Kimnhung Nguyen
October 23, 2007



RICHARD HJERPE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600